

REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action & Formalities

Status of Claims

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant is amending claim 2. No new matter is added.

Additional Fees

Submitted herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time with fee.

Claim to Foreign Priority

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to foreign priority and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document was received.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for initialing the references listed on form PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 31, 2006 and January 16, 2007.

Drawings

Again, Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging and accepting the drawings filed on December 22, 2006.

Art Rejections

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by JP 2004-9201 (hereafter '9201).

Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 In View Of JP 2004-9201 (hereafter '9201).

In rejecting claims 1-8 in view of JP 2004-9201 (hereafter '9201), the grounds of rejection state:

'9201 teaches an eyeglass lens processing apparatus with a piercing unit 201 for piercing various types of holes (see paragraphs 0017-0020, for example) in the lens; control unit 80 (see paragraph 0100, for example); milling 201 and grinding 213 (see paragraph 0011 and 0016, for example); data memory 82 for positioning (see paragraph 0034, for example); contact or non-contact sensors (see paragraph 0033, for example); contact feeler 102 (see paragraph 0101, for example); detecting broken tool (see paragraph 0120 and 0121, for example).

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By this Amendment, Applicants amend claim 2.

Although '9201 may disclose a lens processing apparatus having a drilling unit for processing holes with varying diameters or different shapes through a lens, it merely discloses a technique corresponding to the background art of the present invention. It fails to teach or suggest a breakage detector that detects whether or not the hole forming tool is broken.

A contact or non-contact sensor in paragraph 0033 measures a hole position for attaching a rimless frame, and does not correspond to a breakage detector that detects whether or not the hole forming tool is broken.

A contact feeler in paragraphs 0100, 0101 is brought into contact with refractive surfaces of the lens for obtaining coordinate positions of a front refractive surface and a rear refractive surface of the eyeglass lens, and thus is not a contact which is brought into contact with a tip of a hole forming tool.

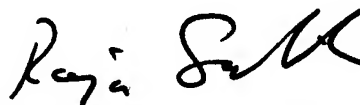
Paragraphs 0120, 0121 disclose a technique for grooving a periphery of the lens. That is, these paragraphs disclose a technique for detecting a driving current flowing through a motor 39a for rotating a grooving cutter 40c and showing a relationship between the driving current and a variation of processing pressure of the cutter 40c, and a technique of preventing an application of a load higher than a certain level on the motor 39a. Thus, '9201 fails to teach or suggest a breakage detector that detects whether or not the hole forming tool is broken.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 10, 2007